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WHO WAS AIDED?

In his address to the Canadian parliament at Ottawa, President Kennedy plugged aid to the "less developed" nations. He said both Canadians and Americans had "recognized our responsibilities to these new nations." Americans, said Mr. Kennedy, "have given generously, tho not always effectively."

Now, since the government does the giving and does not consult the people, the people are hardly to blame that the giving is not effective. That is the fault of the government. But, tho the results may be a blank, more of the same is in prospect: "And now we must do more," said Mr. Kennedy.

It so happened that, as the President was preaching this doctrine of perpetual giving, a House government operations subcommittee investigating foreign aid in Latin America was listening in Washington to a government auditor.

Frank Kemler, of the International Cooperation administration, the agency which dispenses the largess, testified that the United States spent 13 million dollars on a drought relief program in Peru and that only 5 per cent of the food was given free to needy victims. Most of the surplus grain sent to Peru, said Kemler, was sold commercially. The proceeds were supposed to pay the wages of Peruvian laborers on work relief projects, but politicians grabbed the money instead. Some of it was used to build eight houses for local bigwigs in the city of Puno.

This was the kind of testimony which Secretary of State Rusk tried to keep from Congress when he ordered state and CIA witnesses gagged on Latin American scandals. He was forced to rescind his order under protest.

Kemler said that he sought several times to reach the American ambassador to Peru to discuss the foreign aid irregularities but never could get in to see him. The ambassador, Theodore O. Achilles, is the same gentleman Mr. Kennedy has now picked to run a "command post" to keep a round-the-clock check on brewing crises. On his record in Peru, Achilles will be asleep if there is an emergency.